

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Shigeru Kamei et al.  
Title: SUSTAINED-RELEASE PREPARATION  
Prior Appl. No.: 09/640,983  
Prior Appl. Filing Date: 08/18/2000  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

PRE AMENDT/A  
A-J  
PT#4  
4-29-02

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment be entered into the application.

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, line 2, after title insert -

This application is a Continuation of Serial No. 09/640,983, filed August 18, 2000, which is a continuation of Serial No. 09/386,949 filed August 31, 1999, which is a divisional of Serial No. 08/892,315, filed July 14, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,972,891, which is a divisional of Serial No. 08/471,382, filed June 6, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 5,668,111, which is a divisional of Serial No. 08/162,698, filed December 7, 1993, now U.S. Patent No. 5,480,868.